

~~WV-141~~ WV-141

Date

Building Name: Berlin Variety
Public/Private Access

Description:

The Berlin Variety Store is located on the north east-erly corner of the intersection of Pitts and N. Main Sts. Originally brick faced, the rectangular 2-story building is now covered on the principal facades with form stone but retain its early decorative elements. Plate glass show win-dows with dual lite transoms on the commercial level have remained intact in wood frames. Two wooden bay windows on the second floor of the Pitts St. facade are also in place. They are sheathed in tongue and groove vertical siding and are roofed with scalloped wooden shingles. Two stamped sheet metal cornices, one marking the juncture of the first and second floors and the other at the roof line, remain on the building. The lower one is a simple modillion cornice and is set just above a canvas awning. The roof line cornice is more elaborate having brackets faced with acanthus leaves, modillions and a frieze of swags and rosettes beneath egg and dart moulding.

The windows of the second floor and 1/1 and originally had segmental arches formed by double rows of headers. The flat roof is concealed behind the cornice. The building presently is in a good state of repair.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

Berlin Variety

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

101 N. Main St.

CITY, TOWN

Berlin

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

First

STATE

MD

COUNTY

Worcester

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT☒ BUILDING(S)☐ STRUCTURE☐ SITE☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC☒ PRIVATE☐ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED☐ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

☐ YES: RESTRICTED☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED☐ NO

PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE☒ COMMERCIAL☐ EDUCATIONAL☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ GOVERNMENT☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ MILITARY☐ MUSEUM☐ PARK☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ RELIGIOUS☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ TRANSPORTATION☐ OTHER**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Mabel P. Disharoon & Anne D. Baker

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

210 W. Main St. ?

CITY, TOWN

Berlin

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

MD 21811

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Worcester County Courthouse

Liber #: FWH 402

Folio #: 570

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Snow Hill

STATE

MD

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

☐ EXCELLENT
☐ GOOD
☐ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED
☐ RUINS
☐ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

☐ UNALTERED
☐ ALTERED

CHECK ONE

☐ ORIGINAL SITE
☐ MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Berlin Variety Store is located on the north easterly corner of the intersection of Pitts and N. Main Sts. Originally brick faced, the rectangular 2-story building is now covered on the principal facades with form stone but retain its early decorative elements. Plate glass show windows with dual lite transoms on the commercial level have remained intact in wood frames. Two wooden bay windows on the second floor of the Pitts St. facade are also in place. They are sheathed in tongue and groove vertical siding and are roofed with scalloped wooden shingles. Two stamped sheet metal cornices, one marking the juncture of the first and second floors and the other at the roof line, remain on the building. The lower one is a simple modillion cornice and is set just above a canvas awning. The roof line cornice is more elaborate having brackets faced with acanthus leaves, modillions and a frieze of swags and rosettes beneath egg and dart moulding.

The windows of the second floor are 1/1 and originally had segmental arches formed by double rows of headers. The flat roof is concealed behind the cornice. The building presently is in a good state of repair.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Berlin Variety Store contributes as a pivotal structure to the commercial district. Its location, affording facades on two principal streets, makes it an essential element of the streetscape. It is related by scale and design to the original buildings of the district. Although perma stone has been applied to the building, it retains integrity as a late 19th century commercial building. The original ground floor windows, two stamped metal cornices, and wood sided bay windows remain intact.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Site 141 on survey map.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Kenneth T. Pribanic, Consultant

August 1979

ORGANIZATION

Mayor and Council

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

10 Williams Street

TELEPHONE

301-641-2770

CITY OR TOWN

Berlin

STATE

MD

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

6-22-73 FWH 402/570 conveyed by Mabel P. and William R.
Disharoon to Jack Dunlap

11-30-45 CWN 6/171 conveyed to William R. Disharoon from Charles
W. Richardson, executor of LW & T of Charlotte E. Furbush

Conveyed to Edward S. Furbush from:

1-23-99 FHP 11/511 from Emory E. Bell
1-24-99 FHP 11/512 from Calvin B. Taylor

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation
Washington, D.C. 20240

WO-141



**HISTORIC PRESERVATION CERTIFICATION
APPLICATION — PART 1**

(Pursuant to the Tax Reform Act of 1976)

Instructions: Applicant should read the instructions carefully before completing application. No Certification may be made unless a completed application form has been received (P.L. 94-485). Use typewriter or print clearly in dark ink to complete the application form. If additional space is needed to complete Part 1, use the reverse side of a separate plain sheet of paper, clearly indicating the owner's name and mailing address. Part 1 of this application may be completed and sent to the appropriate State Historic Preservation Officer at any time during the year, and may be sent separately or with Part 2.

PART 1 EVALUATION OF SIGNIFICANCE

1. NAME OF PROPERTY: Disharoun Bldg. or Berlin Variety Store or Renaissance Plaza

Address of property: Street: Corner of Pitts and Main Streets

City: Berlin County: Worcester State: Maryland Zip Code: 21811

Name of historic district in which property is located: Berlin Commercial District

2 DESCRIPTION OF PHYSICAL APPEARANCE:

(see instructions for map and photograph requirements—use reverse side if necessary)

2-story brick bearing wall building with later one-story lean to addition, pressed tin cornice, two wood frame bay windows with cedar shingles and vertical beaded groove siding and 4 storefronts with original framing; original interior features

3. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

(use reverse side if necessary)

The building first appears on a deed for the property in 1900 and is recorded as having been built by Ned Furbush who also built a similar building on another downtown corner during Berlin's major building and development period

Date of construction (if known): 1900 ☒ Original site ☐ Moved Date of alterations (if known): ?

4. NAME AND MAILING ADDRESS OF OWNER:

Name: Renaissance Plaza Partnership

Street: P. O. Box 85

City: Berlin, State: Md. Zip Code: 21811

Telephone Number (during day): Area Code: _____

I hereby attest that the information I have provided is to the best of my knowledge correct and that I am owner of the property described above

Signature: _____ Date: _____

For office use only

The structure described above is included within the boundaries of the National Register historic district and ☒ contributes ☐ does not contribute to the character of the district

The structure ☐ appears ☐ does not appear to meet National Register Criteria for Evaluation (36 CFR 60.6) and ☐ will likely ☐ will not be nominated to the National Register in accord with the Department of the Interior procedures (36 CFR 60)

The structure is located in a district which ☐ appears ☐ does not appear to meet National Register Criteria for Evaluation (36 CFR 60.6) ☐ will likely ☐ will not be nominated to the National Register in accord with Department of the Interior procedures (36 CFR 60), and ☐ appears ☐ does not appear to contribute to the character of said district

Signature: [Signature] Date: 6-16-82
State Historic Preservation Officer

This property has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the Department of the Interior (36 CFR 67) and is subject to depreciation under section 167 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954

☐ is hereby certified a historic structure

☐ does not contribute to the character of the historic district and does not merit certification as a historic structure. Reasons given on the attached sheet

Signature: _____ Date: _____
Keeper of the National Register

7. Description

JO-141

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Berlin (burl'in) Commercial District is located on Maryland's Eastern Shore, about seven miles inland from Ocean City, in an area historically a crossroad of travel. Berlin developed late in the 18th century from a livery stable and coach stop on the old Burleigh Plantation. After the arrival of the railroad in the 1870s, Berlin became a marketplace for agricultural products and later a rest stop for rail passengers on the way to the coastal resort of Ocean City.

Presently, the Berlin Commercial District is a contiguous district composed primarily of late 19th century commercial buildings. Approximately 47 small-scaled, one-to-three story buildings occupy both sides of the main thoroughfare and its secondary arterials forming visually cohesive and pleasing streetscapes. The majority of the buildings contributing to the historic architectural character of the district are constructed in the row fashion, having party or common walls. Elements common to most of the buildings are similarity in scale, setback from the street, use, construction materials, fenestration, and use of the flat roof. Architectural embellishment of the buildings is achieved in one of two ways. Many of the buildings have corbelled cornices articulated in a manner that makes them unique among commercial buildings of similar age located in nearby towns. Bricks laid in a sawtooth pattern above the corbels are the distinguishing element of these buildings. The other form of decoration used is the stamped metal cornice; seven buildings in the district retain their original metal cornices. Another feature that was common to many of the buildings of the district was an overhanging awning that sheltered the pedestrian walks along both sides of the street. Today about 17 buildings have either a metal or canvas awning sheltering the sidewalks.

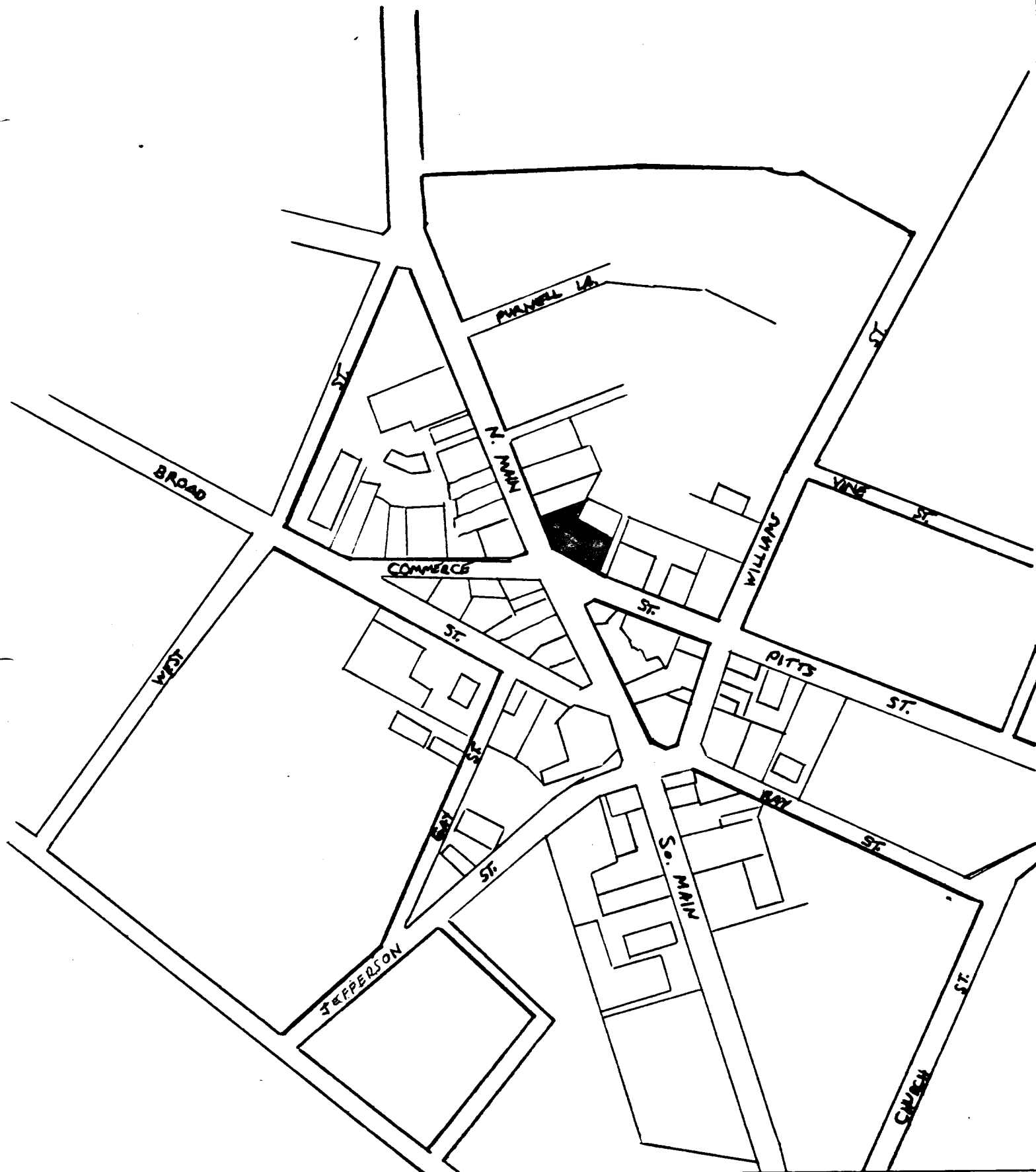
Approximately 33% of the buildings dating from the initial phase of construction in 1895-1905, remain in original or near original conditions. Alterations to some buildings have been sympathetic to the character of the original fabric, while others have been less sensitive to the integrity of the buildings. The modifications are essentially of two types: the construction of an addition, usually to the rear of a building and resulting in a fairly permanent change; or the application of stucco, steel cladding, or perma-stone to the principal facade, a treatment whose effects are not totally irreversible. Some of the buildings that have had novelty siding or stucco applied are actually two or three individual buildings whose facades have been unified through the new treatment.

The newer buildings of the commercial area, those constructed after the initial development phase, are located on the perimeter of the core buildings and are of a different scale and variety of materials and have been excluded from the boundaries of the present district.

List of buildings in Berlin Commercial District

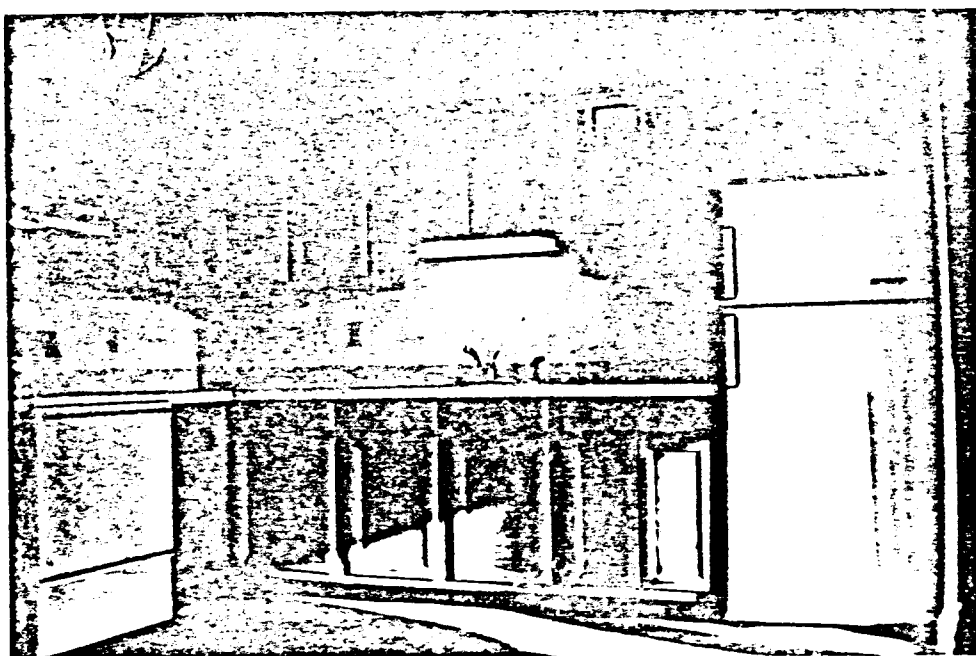
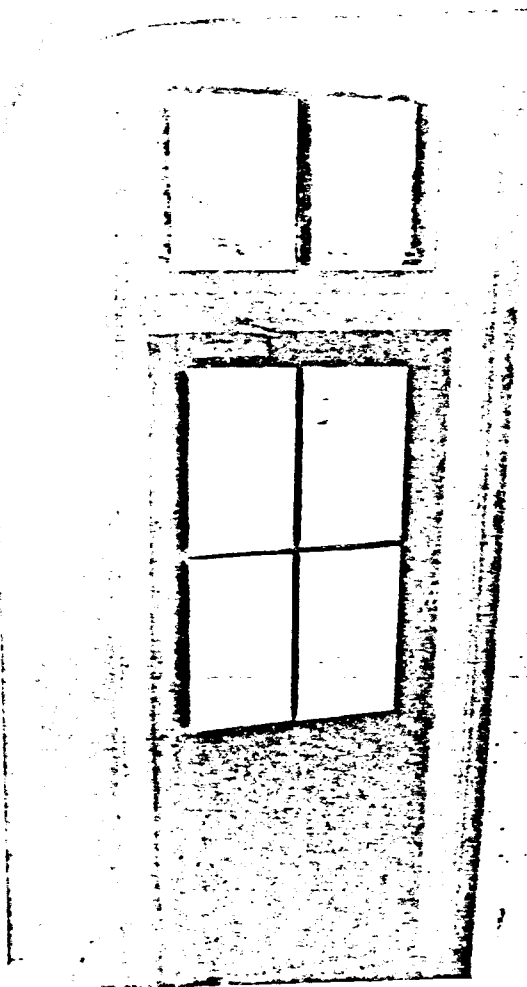
Code: Building number refers to accompanying map

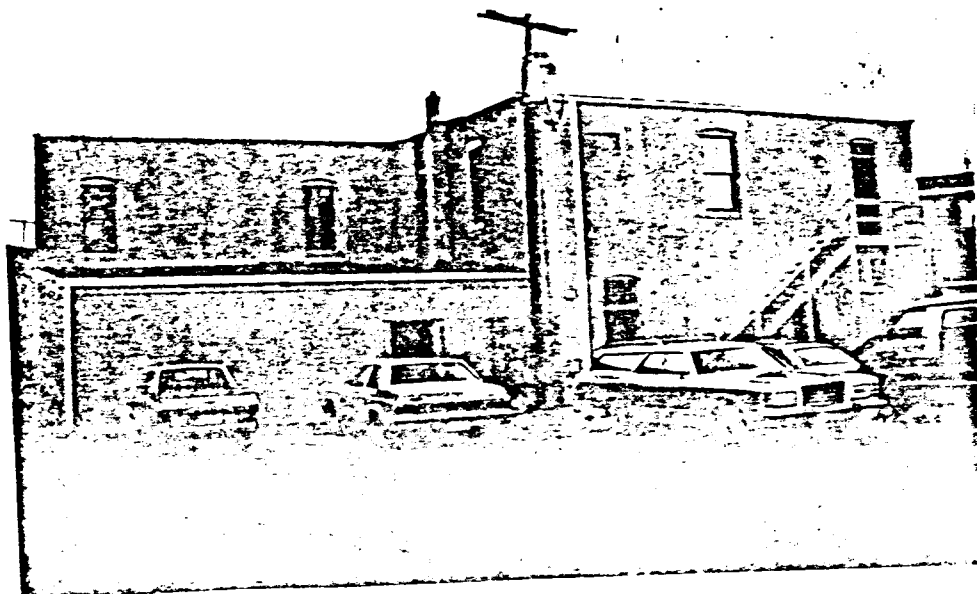
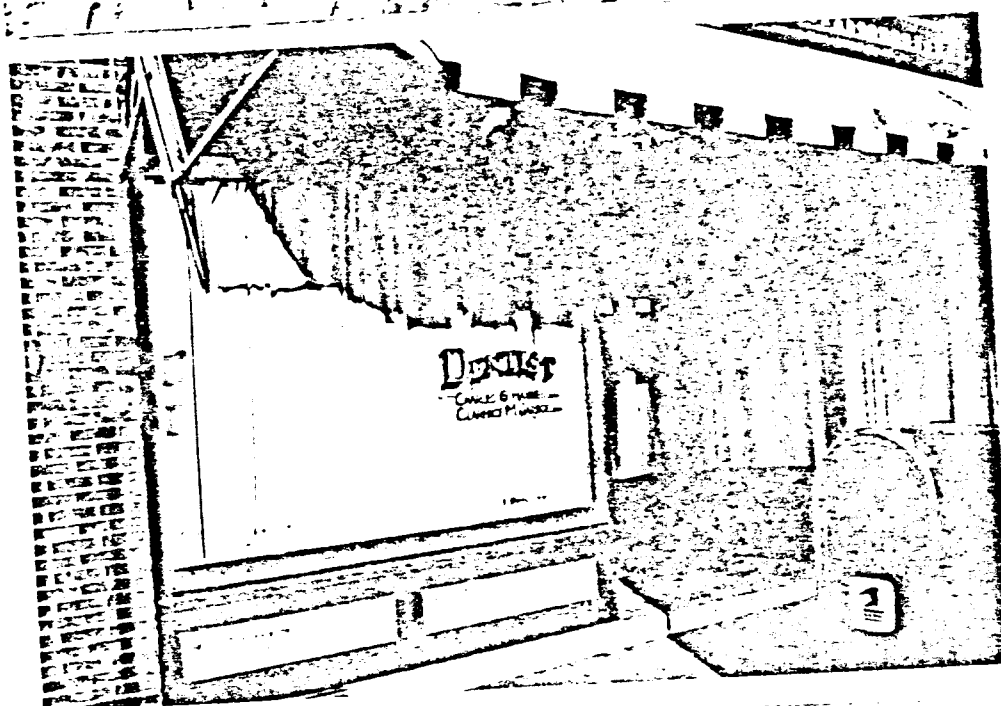
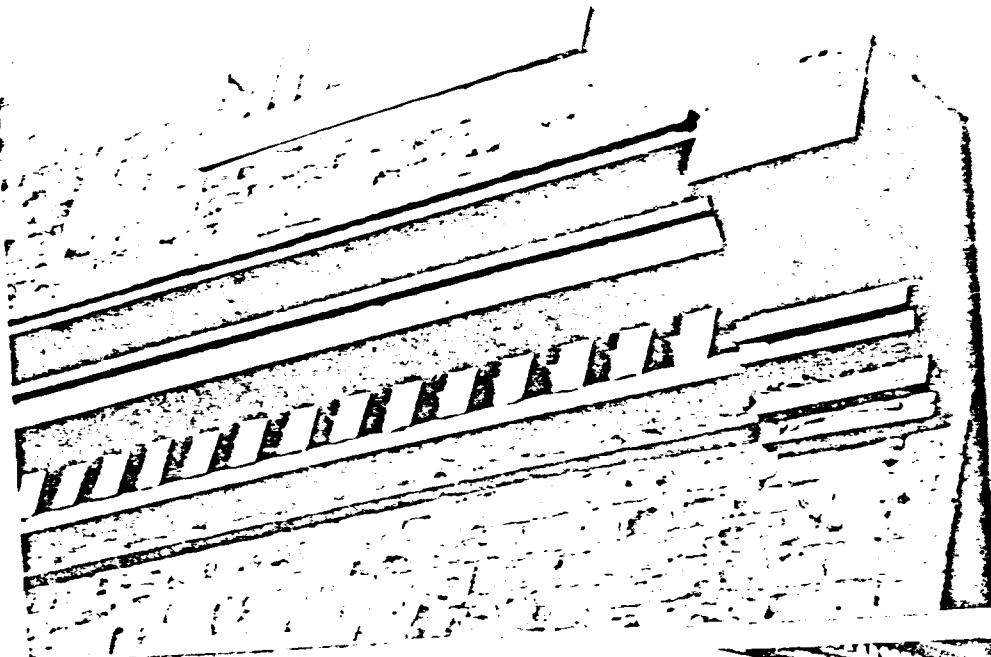
Category of buildings P - pivotal C - contributing I - intrusion



RLIN COMMERCIAL DISTRICT

WO # 141
Building Berlin Variety
Address 101 N. Main Street







Berlin Variety, Berlin
Commercial District

Berlin, MD

Kenneth T. Pribanic

August 1979

MD Historical Trust

Looking East

Photo 3, Bldg 6

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